

OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 30, 2008

NEWS RELEASE

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67 Cited for Violations of Delaware's Child Restraint Law During National Enforcement Effort

Dover – Delaware law enforcement officers cited 67 people for violations of Delaware's child restraint law last week. The citations came as a result of either checkpoints or roving patrols which were conducted as part of National Child Passenger Safety Week (Sept. 21 - 27). Eighteen (18) state and local police agencies participated in the enforcement activities which were coordinated and funded by the Delaware Office of Highway Safety.

CPS Week is dedicated to promoting the correct and consistent use of child safety seats. Delaware law states that all children up to age 8 or 65 pounds in weight must be properly secured in a child safety seat. All children from age 8 (or more than 65pounds in weight – whichever comes first) up to age 16, must be properly secured in a seat belt. And no child under age 12 or 5'5" may sit in the front seat when the vehicle is equipped with an airbag in front of the passenger seating position. Violations will result in a \$25.00 citation, plus court fees.

In addition to the 67 citations for child restraint violations, officers also issued 532 citations for violations of Delaware's seat belt law, 522 citations for other traffic violations and made 1 DUI, as well as 11 other criminal arrests.

OHS also coordinated three child safety seat check events during CPS Week. Certified Technicians inspected and helped install 25 child safety seats. 17 of them were found to be installed incorrectly. Additional information on Delaware's permanent Fitting Station locations statewide and their hours can be found on the OHS website at http://www.ohs.delaware.gov/information/cps.shtml.

In 2006, OHS Fitting Station Coordinators inspected and helped re-install 4,206 child safety seats.